

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A WALK IN HELLAS OR THE OLD IN THE NEW. By DEAN L. SNIDER. Boston: James R. Osgood & Co., pp. 348, \$2.50.

[Mr. Snider made a pedestrian tour in Greece under peculiarly favorable conditions. He was thoroughly familiar with classical legend, poetry and history; he could speak modern Greek fluidly; and he was so inured to hardship by campaigning experience during the war of the Rebellion that he was able to "rough it" anywhere. His travelling arrangements, too, were wise. He determined to go alone, to live altogether among the people and so to obtain a better insight to their habits and customs. Our author's style is not as elastic as it might be. At times he is pedantic and stiff, and it must be confessed that a little of his classical erudition reminds the reader painfully of Baedeker and Murray. But the book is redeemed from worthlessness by the genuine enthusiasm of its author, and, moreover, it is enlivened here and there by bits of descriptive and genre painting which show that if the author had not been so painfully assiduous to sustain what he calls "the Greek mood," he would have made a very much more interesting book for the general reader. The account of "New Life in Old Athens" and of "Political Life in Parthenon," are especially quaint and entertaining. In other chapters the schoolmaster is abroad, perhaps too obviously, and there can be no excuse for the inordinate length to which the frequently thin and feeble excusives of the author are carried on. Some hundred pages of most desultory and rambunctious writing cannot be justified by the suppositions interest of even the largest circle of acquaintance, and the world at large neither will, nor should be expected to, read such ill proportioned volumes.

GATES INTO THE PSALM COUNTRY. By MARVIN M. VINCENT, D. D. Svo., pp. 315. Charles Scribner's Sons.

This is a new edition of Dr. Vincent's excellent and helpful little book, and scarcely needs an introduction to the public, who have become well acquainted with its merits. The Psalms are prized perhaps as highly by the Christian as by the Jewish church. No other portion of the sacred writings expresses so truly the pent-up thoughts and aspirations of the human heart. While it is well to have learned commentaries on these exquisite songs of Hebrew bards, it is well also to have books like this of Dr. Vincent's, prepared for the closet rather than for the study; for the average Bible student rather than for the scholar. No one can read the suggestive chapters that compose this book without being the better for it. To the young man or young woman starting out in life, this book will be a rich storehouse of consolation, advice and inspiration.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY IN ITS THREE GREAT PERIODS. Second period, The Middle Age. By JOSEPH FENWELL ALLEN. 12mo, pp. 316. Boston: Robert E. Beaman.

The student of Church history will find in this book a faithful picture of the Church in the Middle Ages, with its glory and its shame. The author dispels many hollowed illusions in the interests of truth. But he also presents a philosophy of the Church and its relation to the world that is probably a close approximation to the judgment that a wider knowledge in the future will pronounce. A book like this, which takes the saint out of his stained-glass attitude, and paints him for us as he actually was, is refreshing in an age when the artists have almost made us forget that saints were ever anything more than a poetical abstraction.

The fifth volume of Dr. Cunningham Geikie's "Hunts with the Bible" (James Pott) gives in a popular form sketches of Biblical history from the time of Menasseh to Zedekia. It is prepared with much care and will be useful as a hand-book in Sunday-schools and Bible classes.

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2. THE ATLANTIC COAST.

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